

IV. ELIGIBILITY AND AWARDS

A. WHO MAY APPLY

Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard Nurse Corps Officers are eligible to apply for TSNRP funding. Retired Nurse Corps Officers are also eligible for TSNRP funding, however, there are some eligibility limitations and application requirements for retired military nurse scientists. There are also other eligibility requirements specific for award categories and the experience and military status of the Principal Investigator (see below).

1. TSNRP promotes the mentoring of new and junior military nurse researchers as a way to achieve its goal of expanding the cadre of military nurse researchers. TSNRP considers a new and/or junior investigator to be a *novice* investigator, that is, a Masters-prepared nurse clinician or Doctoral-prepared military nurse with no or limited experience in conducting a research study. A *mentor* is defined as an experienced nurse researcher who supports, guides, and assists a new or junior investigator. There are mentoring requirements for the following applicants:

- Investigators applying for Novice Investigator Awards
- Investigators who are retired Nurse Corps Officers
- Investigators applying for Research Fellow Awards
- Investigators applying for Graduate Research Awards

TSNRP highly encourages new or junior investigators seeking research experience to apply for the Novice Investigator Award.

2. Active duty and Reserve graduate students are highly encouraged to apply for a Graduate Research Award to conduct their dissertation or thesis.

Additional eligibility requirements and award limits are shown in the table on the following page.

B. FY 2004 AWARD CATEGORIES AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The TSNRP offers eight funding categories: Novice Investigator Award; 1-, 2-, 3-Year Award; Pilot Project Award; Research Fellow Award; Graduate Research Award; and Fast Track Award. *Note the funding limit for the 3-Year Award has been raised to \$500,000 in total costs.*

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| Novice Investigator Award | Purpose: To provide military nurse clinicians with limited research experience support for a study that is modest in scope, or as a first phase of a larger project. |
| | Award: Up to \$100,000 in direct costs for support of a 1-year study. |
| | Eligibility: Master's- and doctoral-prepared military nurse clinicians with limited experience in conducting a research study. |
| 1- and 2-Year Award | Award: Up to \$450,000 total costs (direct plus indirect costs). |
| | Eligibility: All Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard and Retired* Nurse Corps Officers with research experience. |
| 3-Year Award | Award: Up to \$500,000 total costs (direct plus indirect costs). |
| | Eligibility: All Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard and Retired* Nurse Corps Officers with research experience. |
| Pilot Project Award | Purpose: To provide preliminary data for a future research project |
| | Award: Up to \$30,000 in direct costs to support a 1-year study to provide preliminary data to support the development of future projects.** |
| | Eligibility: All Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard and Retired* Nurse Corps Officers. |
| Research Fellow Award | Purpose: To facilitate training of military nurses interested in research and expand the skills of experienced military nurse researchers. |
| | Award: Up to \$75,000 in direct costs for support over a 1-year period to provide mentored experience to Masters- and Doctoral-prepared military nurses, for the development of specific research-related skills. |
| | Eligibility: Masters- and Doctoral-prepared Active Duty and Reserve Nurse Corps Officers. <i>Retired Nurse Corps Officers may not apply.</i> |
| Applications for the above 6 award categories accepted in November and March of each fiscal year. | |
| Graduate Research Award | Purpose: To support a dissertation/thesis research project. |
| | Award: Up to \$30,000 in direct costs to support a 1- or 2-year project. |
| | Eligibility: Active Duty and Reserve students pursuing a Masters or Doctoral degree in nursing. <i>Retired Nurse Corps Officers may not apply.</i> Only one award funding per thesis and dissertation. |
| | Applications accepted November 2003 through April 2004. |
| Fast Track Award | Purpose: To facilitate rapid implementation of short-term research of emerging service-specific questions or concerns. |
| | Award: Up to \$25,000 in direct costs to support a period not to exceed 15 months. |
| | Eligibility: Experienced Active Duty Nurse Corps researchers only. <i>Students, novice researchers, and retired military nurses may not apply.</i> |
| | Applications accepted four times each fiscal year. |

**See mentoring requirements for Retired Nurse Corps Officers in Section VII: Proposal Preparation, page 14*

***TSNRP highly recommends pilot work to substantiate feasibility and instrument reliability before embarking on a large-scale study.*

The exact amount of funding awarded to an individual grant depends on the purpose and goals of the application, and the availability of funds.

C. APPLICANT ORGANIZATIONS

Awards are made to institutions, not individuals. Although the PI writes the application, implements the research, and disseminates the results, the monetary award is made to an institution known as the applicant organization. The applicant organization assumes responsibility for the execution of the grant.

As the granting authority for the TSNRP's Congressionally appropriated funds, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) can award grants only to organizations outside the Federal sector. Typically, applicant organizations are academic institutions or non-profit organizations. Investigators can submit their application through a non-Federal applicant organization of their choice. Appendix B contains information on non-profit organizations frequently used by military personnel.